

VZCZCXYZ0012
RR RUEHWEB

DE RUEHBW #0093 0230919
ZNR UUUUU ZZH
R 230919Z JAN 07
FM AMEMBASSY BELGRADE
TO SECSTATE WASHDC 0114

UNCLAS BELGRADE 000093

SIPDIS

SIPDIS

E.O. 12958: N/A
TAGS: [OTRA](#) [ASEC](#) [CMGT](#) [SR](#)

SUBJECT: COUNTRY CLEARANCE FOR USOSCE POLITICAL COUNSELOR SAMUEL
LAEUCHLI

REF: USOSCE 00039

¶1. Embassy Belgrade grants country clearance and warmly welcomes Samuel Laeuchli Political Counselor from January 25-26, 2007 to meet and visit OSCE Field Missions. Control Officer for this visit will be POLMIL officer Ian Campbell, Office tel. 381-11-306-4687, Mobile tel. 381-63-325-356.

¶2. The Embassy's offices are located at Kneza Milosa 50, Belgrade. The Embassy's switchboard telephone number is 381-11-361-9344; the fax number is 381-11-361-8230. Normal Embassy working hours are Monday- Friday, 8:30 a.m. - 5:00 p.m. The after hours (Post 1) telephone number is 381-11-306-4679. Reservations have been made for visitor and family on the night of 25th January at the Hyatt Regency Hotel, Belgrade, Tel. 381-11-301-1234.

¶3. Credit cards are accepted at hotels, some restaurants and major supermarkets in Belgrade; however, for travel within Serbia outside Belgrade travelers should bring enough cash for expenses. Accommodation exchange is available through the Embassy cashier with a copy of your travel orders. There is a \$1,000.00 per week limit. Personal and travelers' checks are acceptable at the Embassy. The Raiffeisen Bank ATM is available at the Embassy's Post One lobby. However, this machine does not accept Mastercard, American Express nor Diners Club cards.

¶5. American citizens do not need visas to enter Serbia for a stay up to 90 days. Upon arrival in Belgrade, the Embassy will meet and assist you on arrival at the airport. On departure, you should be aware that some US carrier connections via major hubs around Europe require an overnight in transit. Personnel not staying in a hotel are required to register with local police within 24 hours of arrival.

SPECIAL CIRCUMSTANCES

¶6. Travelers entering Serbia with more than 2000 Euros in cash are required to declare all currency upon entry and obtain from customs officials a declaration form that must be presented at departure. Failure to comply may result in the confiscation of all funds. The U.S. Embassy has been contacted by many American citizens who have failed to comply with this requirement and consequently had thousands of dollars seized by the Government of Serbia. It is advisable to contact the Embassy of Serbia in Washington for specific information regarding customs requirements.

SECURITY

¶7. Official U.S. presence has been continuous in Belgrade since October 2000 and personnel have experienced few untoward incidents. The impression given by the general public is that there is support for the return of USG personnel. However, visitors should not take photos of buildings damaged or destroyed in the NATO bombing campaign. Random street crimes, such as pick pocketing and car vandalism, are the most commonly reported

incidents. There are very serious information security concerns and strict security procedures are to be maintained regarding computer processing and sensitive discussions.

POLT